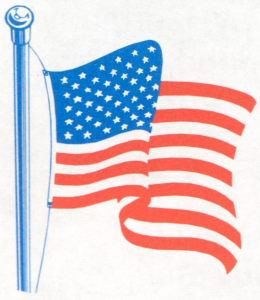
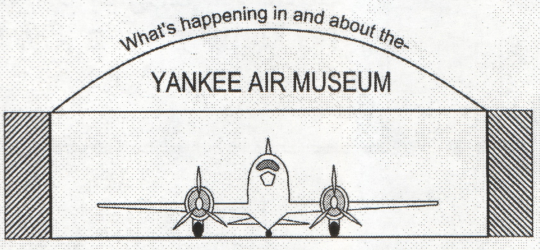
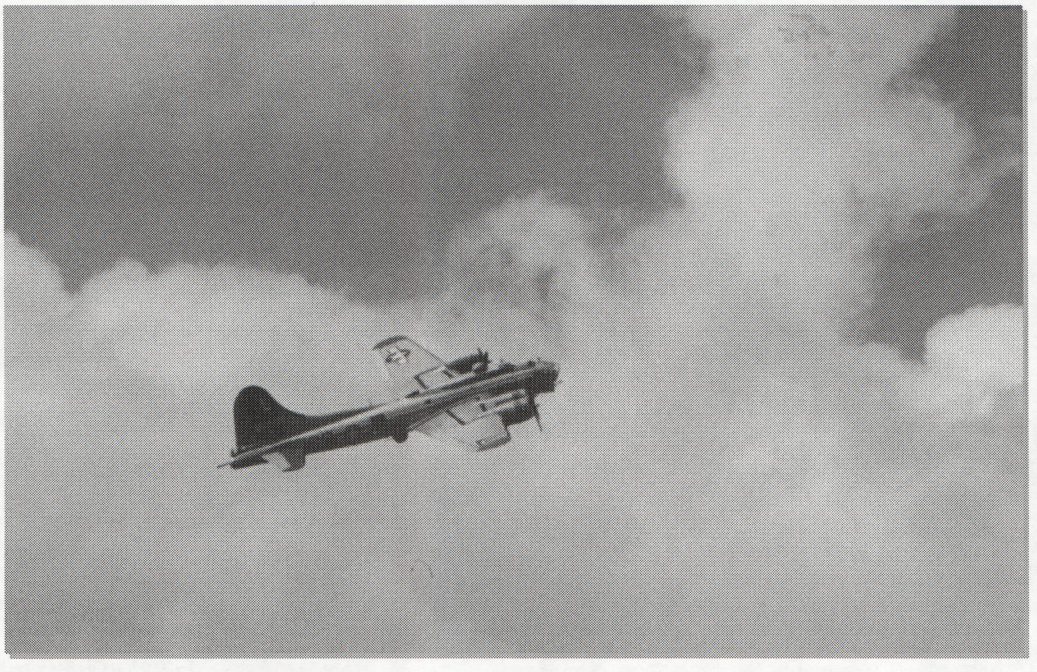
The Newsletter of the Yankee Air Force





Hangar Happenin's

Our B-17G *Yankee Lady* Thunder Over Michigan Sunday 10 August 2003



LINDA TERENTIAK

October 2003

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CELEBRATING *YANKEE LADY*'s FIRST 1000 FLIGHT HOURS !

Join us on the web: www.yankeeairmuseum.org

Yankee Air Force, Inc.
d/b/a Yankee Air Museum
A Non-Profit Organization
501(c)(3)
2041 A Street - East Access
Willow Run Airport
Belleville MI 48111

Hangar Happenin's is a monthly newsletter of the Yankee Air Force.

Founding Editor: **Bill Abbott**
1919 - 2000

Editor: Evelyn Rouse

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Connie Kosek, Don Burke, Bill Hanney, Mary Ann Bittner, Dan Tomczak, Roger Peterson, Bernie Hallman

Officers of the Yankee Air Force:

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Don Burke, Ted Drews, Randy Hotton, Joe Leugers, Dan Tomczak, Deane Baker, Bill Colwell, Brian Higgins, Ray Hunter, Dick Stewart, Russ Welch

Ex Officio Non-Voting: Dennis Norton

MEETING SCHEDULE

1st Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
General Membership
All Members & Guests Welcome

2nd Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
Flyable Aircraft Meeting
Everyone Welcome

3rd Wednesday of Month - 7:30 PM
Board Meeting
All Members Welcome

4th Wednesday of Month - 6:00 PM
Long-Range Planning Meeting
Everyone Welcome

4th Saturday of Month - 10:30 AM
Staff Meeting
All Department Chairs & Managers

MUSEUM HOURS

10 AM - 4 PM TUESDAY - SATURDAY
12 NOON - 4 PM SUNDAY
CLOSED MONDAYS & HOLIDAYS

Phone: (734) 483 - 4030
Fax: (734) 483 - 5076

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Visitors to our Museum
during **August 2003** were from
20 of our United States,
Canada, England, Norway, Germany,
the Netherlands, Switzerland, France,
Russia, Australia, and Panama

The HH Preafrooder sends out
sincere apologies to ***Sonny Eliott*** !
We misspelled his name
in our September issue.

PAST DATES OF INTEREST

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

1 Oct 39	Chance Vought *Corsair* first US fighter to exceed 400 mph
1 Oct 42	First flight of the Bell *Airacomet* P-59A which was the first US jet
1 Oct 58	NASA founded
3 Oct 42	First successful V-2 rocket launch begins new era in air warfare
4 Oct 57	*Sputnik I* launch begins Space Age
13 Oct 68	First live TV broadcast from manned US spacecraft *Apollo 7*
14 Oct 47	First supersonic flight: Air-launched from the bomb bay of a B-29, the Bell X-1 *Glamorous Glennis* was flown by Capt. Chuck Yeager at Mach 1.06
16 Oct 39	First air attack on British territory: German aircraft damaged ships in Scotland's Firth of Forth

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

There was no 50/50 drawing at our September meeting.

To contact Hangar Happenin's
E-mail: **hangarhapps@yankeeairmuseum.org**
Phone: **(734) 483-4030 Ext 219**

CONNIE'S CORNER

by
Connie Kosek

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD HINTS for MOMS, MR. MOMS & PET LOVERS

1. **Living in an apartment?** You're dusting and have to get rid of the debris. But where? If you can't shake the dust off outside try shaking it into a paper or plastic bag.

2. When **hanging a picture,** to prevent paneling from developing dark spots behind the picture place cork at the bottom corners of the frame to allow air to circulate in back of it. Cut the cork so that they hold the picture parallel to the wall.

3. If you don't have a special **Venetian blind duster**, wear thick absorbent gloves and wipe the slats by hand.

4. While **washing windows** there is an easy way to tell whether the spots you miss are on the inside or on the outside of the window. Use horizontal strokes to clean one side of the window and vertical strokes for the other.

5. To **wash window screens** lay them flat on a smooth, cloth-covered surface, such a small sheet on a picnic table. Rub them gently, rinse with a hose, and shake off excess water.

6. When **cleaning a chandelier**, don't take it apart. Lay a sheet or a towel or newspapers under the chandelier. To protect each socket from moisture, cover each bulb with a small plastic bag. Procure it with twist tie. With a window cleaner, squirt on the chandelier and it will drip on the cloth.

7. Going on vacation? To **keep a plant healthy** for up to a month water it well, enclose it in a clear plastic bag, tying it securely at the top. Place the plant in northern light. When you return, untie the top and let the plant adjust to room air for a day before completely removing the covering.

8. Carrying too many packages and need to **turn on the light switch**? Install a switch with a large rocker lever that you can operate with your elbow.

9. A great tool for **washing siding** on a home, garage, or mobile home is a long car wash brush attached to a garden hose.

10. Leaves that are trapped in your gutters will not get caught in your **drain spout** if you purchase a strainer and put it in the top of each down spout.

11. Is your **sprinkler hose** leaking? Spouting water from pin size holes? Seal them carefully with a glowing point of a heated ice pick.

12. An **American dollar bill** measures 6" so if you need to measure the fish you caught, use a dollar.

PETS

1. **Car antifreeze** tastes delicious to dogs and cats and is usually fatal. If you have any spills wipe up every bit and hose the area.

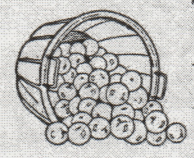
2. When giving **water to pets** consider their size. Have a shallow dish for a snub-nosed cat or dog, a dish narrow at the top to keep ears out of the food.

3. **To discourage a cat from jumping on the kitchen counter** leave several aluminum baking pans near the edge so they'll clatter when the cat lands.

4. **To stop your cat from jumping on furniture** tie some small inflated balloons to the furniture. When the cat breaks the balloon, they will definitely get down. Cats hate loud noises.

5. Most **dogs love eggs** and can be fed a cooked egg once or twice a week.

Do not feed eggs to cats !



THE APPLE ACCENT

by ***Darlene Imus***
#7742 WR

DARLENE IMUS

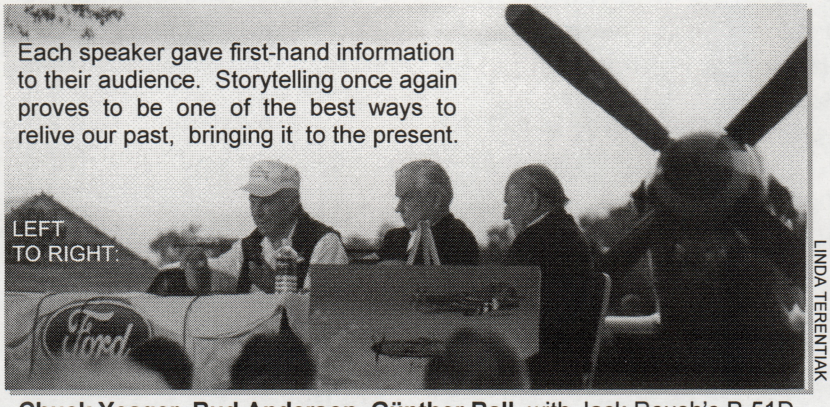
WOW! *Thunder Over Michigan* was an excellent title for Yankee Air Museum's 2003 Air Display! Friday night's storm with unusually strong thunder and lightning cleared the skies for one of the largest gatherings of warbirds in North America. I'd never seen four B-17s on the same field! There were so many cars parked near the Yankee grounds, it was an incredible sight.

It was a treat for me to experience the grandeur of this event along with my dogtag buddies Mary Ann Bittner and Linda Terentiak. Many of our guests commented on how well-organized the weekend was. They were very happy to be there and delighted to share their patriotism.

The symposium was comprised of a catered dinner and guest speakers, Brigadier General Charles E. Yeager USAF (Ret.), Colonel Clarence E. "Bud" Anderson USAF (Ret.), and General Günther Rall, a retired German Me-109 ace with 275 victories.

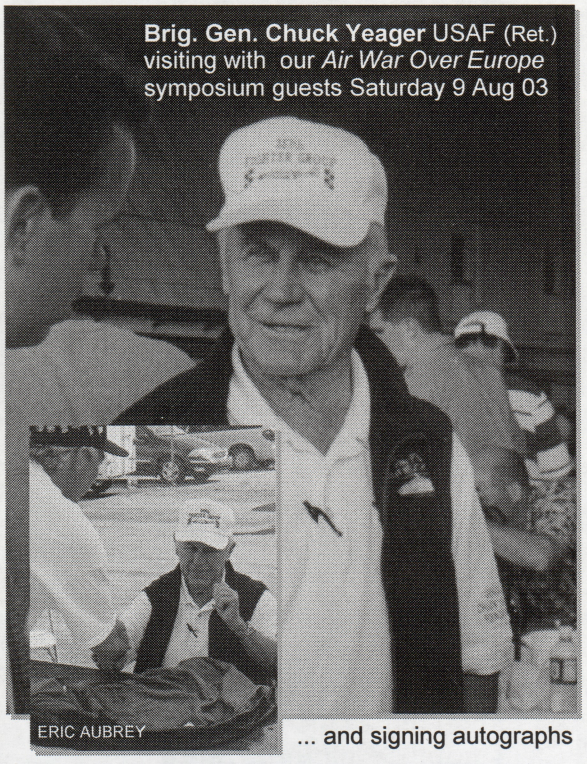
Gen. Yeager spoke first, describing some of his personal encounters in World War II. His squadron had been assigned to initially protect the bomber aircraft. However, later he was instructed "to hit" the German planes. He followed those orders. In all, he flew 60 missions and retired in 1975. After his combat days, he went on to train pilots. Col. Anderson spoke next, expressing his admiration for General Yeager. He talked about his World War II missions. In describing one of his victories, he asked General Yeager to hold the microphone for him. That left him "plenty of room" to gesture as he talked. He also described his last mission with General Yeager, quite a story! Gen. Rall was last to speak. He was a German fighter pilot. Gen. Yeager introduced him with great respect and good humor as "one of the greatest fighter pilots ever, even though he fought for Germany!" It was interesting to hear Gen. Rall's point of view regarding World War II. I listened with an open mind and learned a lot from what he said about the many missions he flew.

As an educator, I know that no textbook could even come close to telling the stories these men and so many other veterans have encountered.


Each speaker gave first-hand information to their audience. Storytelling once again proves to be one of the best ways to relive our past, bringing it to the present.
LEFT TO RIGHT:
Ford

LINDA TERENTIAK

Chuck Yeager, **Bud Anderson**, **Günther Rall**, with Jack Roush's P-51D Mustang *Old Crow,* B6-S, painted as Colonel Anderson's P-51D-10-NA



DARLENE IMUS

... and signing autographs

WITH SINCERE THANKS TO EVERYONE ...
our visitors, honored guests, the media, sponsors, shutterbugs, volunteers and more than 65 featured warbirds, their owners and crews *!*

TED DREWS

LEFT: **B-17s over Belleville Lake**

CAF's *Sentimental Journey*
COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
YAF's *Yankee Lady*
YANKEE AIR FORCE
MARC's Memphis Belle
MILITARY AIRCRAFT RESTORATION CORP

RIGHT:

Collings Foundation's B-24J
All American /
The Dragon and His Tail

ROGER SHERMAN

Aerial view of *Thunder Over Michigan* at Yankee Air Museum
from Vern Raburn's Lockheed C-121A MATS Constellation

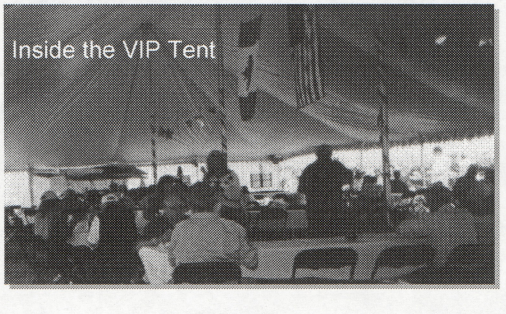
ROGER SHERMAN

Former USAAF 44-83514
B-17G Flying Fortress
Sentimental Journey

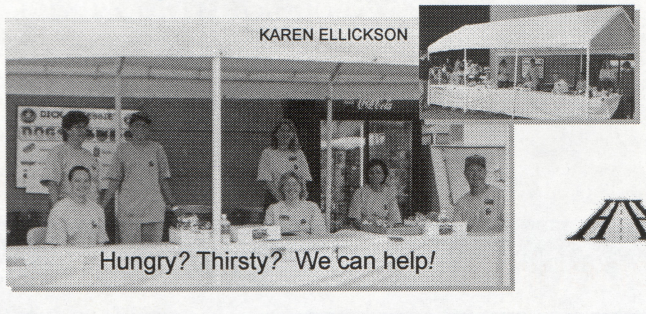
TED DREWS

LINDA TERENTIAK

Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum's Avro Lancaster

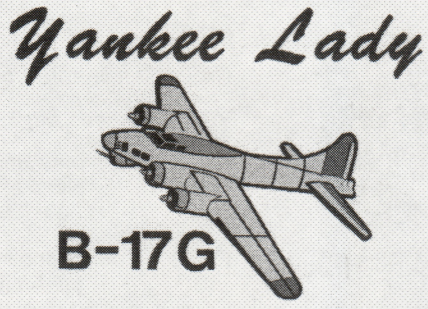


BETTE WATSON



Planes of Fame Lockheed P-38J Lightning *Porky II*

LINDA TERENTIAK



Flight Experience Hat

Navy blue hat with narrow white piping along the visor. The *Yankee Lady* is featured on the front and the left side of the hat says *Yankee Lady Flight Experience*. The aircraft and text are embroidered with white, silver, and red threads. Allow three to four weeks for delivery.

$25.00

Includes UPS delivery
Michigan residents add $1.50 tax

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip Code _____
Phone Number _____

Checks should be made payable to the Yankee Air Museum. Mail your order to:

Mail Order Hat Offer
Yankee Air Museum Store
P.O. Box 590
Belleville, MI 48112-0590

Too late to make the September issue, but we hope this reaches your mailbox in time for you to know...

FOR OUR ***A.A.H.S.*** FANS !

Yankee Air Museum is hosting this season's first meeting of the

AMERICAN AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Saturday evening
**** 7:00 PM ****
September 27, 2003
in the YAF Meeting Room

US Air Force Aviation Artist
HARLEY COPIC
will present an unforgettable program of slides on
Operation Iraqi Freedom
from his recent assignment in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait & Iraq

** Come early and welcome the B-17 home from Bad Axe ! **

If you miss our September program, please come enjoy the next AAHS meeting scheduled for Yankee Air Museum
Saturday, November 22, 2003
featuring Jim Hanford's slides of
Oshkosh 2003

EVERYONE WELCOME !

In Memory Of...

Richard W. Hyde
Life Member # 6126 WR
passed away
in July 2003

Planned for October in our classic gull-winged **STINSON V-77 *Reliant***

Sunday, October 12 **Grand Ledge**
Depart Willow Run 7:00 AM
Return approximately 12:00 Noon

For more information on flying with us, please contact:

Ray Hunter	OR	**Dan Tomczak**
(734) 668-6059		(734) 769-6866
HuntersofA2@aol.com		dtomczak@provide.net

The purpose of our Stinson trips will be to sell Yankee Air Force Museum memberships.
Occupants are expected to dress in appropriate identifiable outfits and to participate in promoting our Museum.
There may be a modest charge to offset our aircraft operating expenses.
We will be taking two pilots on each trip to gain experience in all aspects of the Stinson program.

2003 YANKEE AIR FORCE AIRSHOW SCHEDULE

B-17! B-25! C-47!	Oct 04	Veteran's Appreciation Day - FLEX	Monroe, MI
C-47?	Oct 06-10	YAF member trip to NC, GA, FL, LA	Wilmington, NC
			Savannah, GA
		! Definite ? Tentative **FLEX** Flight Experiences	Pensacola, FL
			New Orleans,LA
B-17?	Oct 12	Static Display - FLEX	Anderson, IN
Stnsn!	Oct 12	Grand Ledge Airport (4DO) display	Grand Ledge,MI

FLORIDA FLIGHT LINES

Our Florida Division reports some great events coming up... plus one we're sorry to have missed:

Saturday, September 20 was a cookout with Stearman rides *!* Flights with Tim Kirby were $35 each, plus one free ride donated by the pilot for a raffle. ROTC Cadets helped throughout the day.

Saturday, October 4 our Florida Division will offer dogtags and possibly PX at the *Dunnellon First Saturday Festival.*

Saturday October 11 at 1 PM is their General Meeting with guest speaker Conrad Dutton, who was a PBY crew member.

Monday-Thursday, October 13-16 EAA's B-17 at Ocala Airport

Saturday-Sunday, November 1-2 Dunnellon Airport (X35) *YAF/DAB Centennial of Flight Airshow* CONTACT: JOHN GAMPP (352) 465-0727

~ *Muriel Haedike*

Museum Store
Christmas Sale
November 28-December 28
25% off!
Members must present valid ID membership card with them at time of purchase

The Room 216 Report

by ***Jon Stevens*** *L 4172 WR*

The Lock family ready for National Air Tour departure in their matching 1929 New Standard biplanes

BETTE WATSON

A popular TV show in the mid-60s was *That Was The Week That Was.* A forerunner of *Laugh-In* and *Saturday Night Live,* the show poked fun at contemporary society, and the show's title became a catch phrase for many of us.

As I write this, the past seven days have been our own Week That Was, and unlike the program, a lot of people were laughing with us, and not at us. If you'll indulge me, I'd like to share some of that week with you.

To give you some background, we've been preparing for two events for the last several months: hosting the *National Air Tour*, and exhibiting *The Last Battle* photo exhibit. Both took place in September and presented some new directions to us.

From 1925-1931, Edsel Ford sponsored the Ford Air Tours in an effort to publicize the viability of commercial aviation in the United States. The tours started and ended at Ford Field (now known as the Dearborn Proving Grounds) and flew over portions of the eastern US.

While the Depression may have caused the end of the tour, it did not end the dream behind them. **Greg Herrick**, Executive Director of the Aviation Foundation of America, chose to resurrect the tour as part of this year's *Centennial of Flight Celebration*. Greg's aim was to gather and fly vintage aircraft of the original tour's era, in what would have been the route of the aborted 1932 tour.

The first tour was first brought to our attention by YAF member **John Bellefleur** over a year ago. At this past June's *Ford Centennial,* **Bette Watson** and I met the tour's Director of Operations, **Craig Schiller**. At the time, Craig was looking for a starting location near the Proving Grounds, and we quickly agreed to host the event.

Fast-forwarding three months, by Saturday, September 6, 2003, almost 30 vintage aircraft had arrived at Willow Run and were parked on our ramp. Included were several WACOs, Travel Airs and Stearmans, as well as a Ford Tri-Motor, a Ryan M-1, a Buhl Sport Air Sedan, and even a couple of Sikorsky Flying Boats!

Sunday, September 7th brought a short flight over downtown Detroit, including a 200-foot AGL (above ground level) flyby of the DTW (Detroit Metro Airport) tower .

Sunday night we held a banquet in our hangar in the group's honor.

On Monday morning, September 8th, the scheduled departure date, we welcomed about 500 visitors, including **Edsel Ford II** and **Erik Lindbergh,** grandson of Charles Lindbergh.

After a brief ceremony, the pilots took to their planes and began departures at 10:45AM, everyone gone by 11:30AM. Watching this aerial armada was a very stirring sight for all of us! Chances are, we'll never see a gathering like this again, and to have hosted it was a great honor.

On Wednesday, September 10th, **Dennis Norton**, **Frank Sinagra** and I flew to Boyne Highlands to attend the Michigan Aeronautics Commission's semi-monthly meeting, which included their annual awards presentation. Every year the Commission honors both an individual and an organization with their *Award of Excellence for Enhancement of Aviation*, and this year we won the organization award!

The citation on our plaque reads:

PRESENTED TO
THE YANKEE AIR MUSEUM
SEPTEMBER 10, 2003
IN RECOGNITION OF OVER
TWO DECADES OF CONTRIBUTIONS
TO AVIATION IN MICHIGAN
INCLUDING
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION
AVIATION EDUCATION
AND COMMUNITY SERVICE.
THESE ACTIVITIES HAVE ENSURED
THAT OUR RICH AVIATION HERITAGE
WILL BE KNOWN
TO FUTURE GENERATIONS

This plaque belongs to every volunteer we've had over the last 22 years, and to each of you, thank you for a job well done. The plaque will soon be mounted in our Meeting Room.

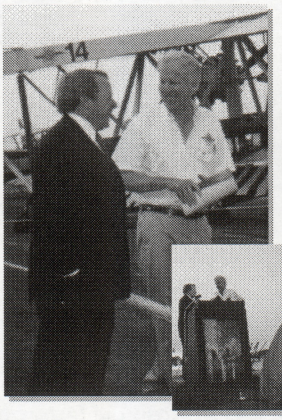
Arriving back at the hangar, I met our curator **Gayle Roberts-Walker**, who was awaiting the arrival of an important visitor, world-renowned photographer **Tony Vaccaro.**

You'll recall that over the last few months, I've been talking about a photographic exhibit called *The Last Battle.* Shot by Mr. Vaccaro (whose credits include *LIFE, LOOK, McCall's, Stars and Stripes, Flair and Venture*), this exhibit spans Tony's experiences from 1943-1949. The images include shots of the 83rd Infantry as it moved to the gates of Berlin. This exhibit has been seen on both sides of the Atlantic by over 100,000 viewers, and it is now on display in our Museum.

The Last Battle exhibit of 60 photographs opened Friday evening, September 12th to a small but very enthusiastic crowd gathered in our Museum. Tony gave us a guided tour, discussing the circumstances in which each picture was taken, and something about the individuals in them. After that, we moved back to the hangar floor, where he signed posters (currently on sale in the Museum Store), answered questions about his exhibit, and delighted us with stories about his other experiences.

Even if you've never heard of Tony Vaccaro by name, chances are you've at least seen his photograph of a C-54 arriving at Templehof Airport during the 1948 Berlin Airlift. This is one of the many powerful images you'll see between now and October 31st. I strongly encourage you to visit the hangar and see this exhibit!

If you've got anything you'd like to discuss, please feel free to call me at **(248) 353-3384** or e-mail me at **jon_stevens_77@worldnet.att.net**

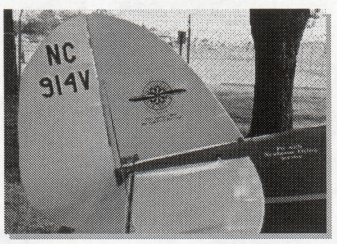


Edsel Ford II begins the *National Air Tour 2003* with a traditional wave of the flag, autographed by the aircrews.

Photos by BETTE WATSON

Edsel Ford II with Greg Herrick

UNTIL NEXT MONTH, LET'S KEEP TALKING AND KEEP 'EM FLYING!



ERIC AUBREY

This **Bird CK** proudly shows it flew the1931 Ford Air Tour

A beautiful red **WACO ASO**

Photos by EVELYN ROUSE

Fokker Super Universal

ERIC AUBREY

Ryan M-1

ERIC AUBREY

Travel Air 4000

Watch this space for new developments! This will be a regular column!

REPORT / MEETING / LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

In order to formulate a plan for directed and controlled growth, the YAF Board of Governors has formed a Long-Range Planning Committee. The purpose of this committee is to envision what Yankee Air Museum will look like in 10-15 or 20 years into the future. Serving on our Long-Range Planning Committee are Jon Stevens, Russ Welch, Brian Higgins, Bill Colwell, and Randy Hotton.

We face **two major issues** at Yankee Air Museum that necessitated forming a Long-Range Planning Committee. The **first** issue is that our present World War II hangar has a finite life. Without extensive investment, it will most likely become unusable, perhaps in the not-too-distant future. The **second** issue is that we are able to balance our Museum's budget only because of the revenue generated by our B-17 Flight Experiences *(FLEX Rides).* How long will our B-17 continue to fly and support our Museum? I am a great supporter of the B-17 program and hope to see it fly for many years to come. But, many factors could lead to the grounding of our B-17: suppliers of 100-octane fuel could decide to stop producing 100 LL (Low Lead), the FAA could say "No more rides on the B-17" and the price of engine overhauls could make it cost-prohibitive to operate our airplane. These issues could spell the end of Yankee Air Museum...as we presently know it.

We are going to look at successful museums as models to gather ideas on the right things to do and look at troubled museums as models of what to avoid. We are going to look at the findings of our "Focus Groups" conducted in March and April. We have an open agenda. We will communicate our findings to the members in order to keep them informed of our progress through the planning process.

Randy Hotton

ROGER SHERMAN

Roger Sherman flew with the *Yankee Lady* to EAA's *AirVenture 2003* in Oshkosh, Wisconsin this summer. He returned with some great photos of the re-enactors who joined us there! Capturing these moments really brings history to life for those of us enjoying our freedom so many decades later. Many thanks.

ROGER SHERMAN

THRILL OF A LIFETIME

Eleven of the Yankee Air Museum faithful departed Willow Run in our Flying Fortress on Thursday, July 31, 2003, for Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Under the tutelage of **Norm Ellickson** and **Brian Higgins**, we set up shop, selling tours, T-shirts, hats and posters. We did ourselves proud in spreading the word about our Museum.

The personal highlight of the trip was when **Dick Bodycombe** thought it was time to test this old pilot's rusty skills. He invited me to take the seat beside **Paul Scholl** and fly the *Yankee Lady.* The thrill of a lifetime. Thank you, gentlemen.

Bob Hynes

ROGER SHERMAN

Paul Scholl **Dick Bodycombe** **Norm Ellickson**

Yankee Lady's EAA *AirVenture 2003* Flight Crew in sunny Oshkosh

ELECTION CAMPAIGN STATEMENT CLARIFICATION by ***William S. Colwell***

As one of your elected representatives, I have an obligation to clarify facts related to a statement made in current election campaign materials regarding the Professional Curator Contract. The following statement was made: "For example, I recently voted 'No' on a proposed six-figure employee's salary package I thought was excessive." Please note the six-figure salary is not annual but covers a **five-year period**. The proposal passed with a vote of 9 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention. I voted in favor of this proposal.

AFROTC CLASS OF 2007 TAKES OATH OF ENLISTMENT

by Colonel Ray Hunter USAF (Ret.)

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God."

This was the oath taken on the 6th of September 2003 in the Yankee Air Museum by cadets of the University of Michigan's Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Class of 2007 as they began their four-year journey to become commissioned officers in the United States Air Force.

The entire freshman class was administered the oath of enlistment by **Major General Richard Bodycombe** USAF (Ret.). General Bodycombe is a veteran of combat service in World War II and served as Commander of the United States Air Force Reserve from April 1979 until his retirement in November 1982. His military decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Purple Heart.

General Bodycombe remarked during the ceremony that "I am honored and privileged to swear you into the ROTC program...I am a Michigan graduate who walked the corridors of North Hall when the attack on Pearl Harbor devastated our country in December of 1941." The University of Michigan's ROTC programs are based in North Hall on the UM's central campus.

Following the enlistment ceremony, the new members of the US Air Force toured Yankee Air Museum and were flown in the Yankee Air Force C-47 *Yankee Doodle Dandy* by YAF pilots **Randy Hotton** and **Bill Clark**.

WHY I JOINED THE YANKEE AIR FORCE

For each member of the Yankee Air Force, there is probably a different and personal reason for joining the YAF. I have been asked why I joined this group.

Flash back to late August 1961. I had spent the summer with my grandfather outside of Kilgore, Texas. Although working on his ranch took most of the summer, once in a while he would take me out to the local airport to watch planes. At that time, DC-3s flew into the airport regularly, and we were always excited when one would land or take off. But finally the summer was a over, and it was time to go back home and start school, and so my grandfather took me to Gregg County Airport in east Texas. I boarded a DC-3 operated by Trans-Texas Airways for a flight to Dallas. I sat in a window seat and waved to my grandfather who was standing by the fence. He waved back with a big smile on his face. He was a great man to me, and probably the largest influence on my life. What I didn't know at the time is that sitting on that DC-3 would be the last time I would see my grandfather alive.

Over the years I have been interested and involved in various facets of aviation. My first plastic model was of an airplane. I have flown fixed wing and helicopters. I have worked for aviation companies. I have served aboard Hueys in the Army. However, probably the single most plane of interest, and about which I have collected books and other information, is the DC-3/C-47. When one flies over (not very often these days) I stop and watch it until I can see it no more.

Now flash forward to late August 2003. My wife and I attended the Open House at the Oakland International Airport (the old Pontiac Airport). This was the airport from which I flew my very first hour as a student pilot in 1966. Anyway, the YAF C-47 was at the show, and my wife and I took a tour of the plane. The minute I boarded, I was immediately transported back 42 years to that day in late August 1961. I shared the story with my wife. As I stood aboard the plane, I was sure the plane I was on in August 1963 had at one time served in the same colors as the YAF C-47 that I boarded in August 2003 (or at least I would like to think so). It was a wonderful experience, and brought back a flood of marvelous memories. I am very thankful to the YAF for allowing me to relive that moment.

On the way home from the Open House, I told my wife I wanted to be involved in keeping this beautiful bird flying. The reasons included the maintenance of a flying memorial to all those who served aboard this type of plane, a memorial to all veterans, and in honor of the memory of my grandfather. I want others to able to board her and experience their own individual memories. I want others to be able to look up as it flies over, and remember days gone by. As long as the *Yankee Doodle Dandy* continues to fly and be available for tours, this will be possible. And for me, every time I board her, my grandfather will be back at that fence. The DC-3/C-47 shared a significant moment in my life.

Don Laux #11027 WR

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